

1 JOHN M. APPELBAUM
Chief of Enforcement
2 DEANNE CANAR
Senior Commission Counsel
3 FAIR POLITICAL PRACTICES COMMISSION
428 J Street, Suite 620
4 Sacramento, CA 95814
Telephone: (916) 322-5660
5
6 Attorneys for Complainant
7

8 BEFORE THE FAIR POLITICAL PRACTICES COMMISSION
9 STATE OF CALIFORNIA
10

11 In the Matter of)	FPPC No.: 02/503
)	
)	
13 STEPHEN E. BENSON, COMMITTEE TO ELECT)	STIPULATION, DECISION and
STEVE BENSON JUDGE, and EUGENE C.)	ORDER
14 HANCOCK,)	
)	
)	
16 Respondents.)	
)	

17
18 Complainant Mark Krausse, Executive Director of the Fair Political Practices Commission, and
19 Respondents Stephen E. Benson, Committee to Elect Steve Benson Judge, and Eugene C. Hancock
20 hereby agree that this stipulation will be submitted for consideration by the Fair Political Practices
21 Commission at its next regularly scheduled meeting.

22 The parties agree to enter into this stipulation to resolve all factual and legal issues raised in this
23 matter, and to reach a final disposition without the necessity of holding an administrative hearing to
24 determine the liability of Respondents.

25 Respondents understand, and hereby knowingly and voluntarily waive, any and all procedural
26 rights set forth in sections 83115.5, 11503, and 11523 of the Government Code, and in sections 18361.1
27 through 18361.9 of title 2 of the California Code of Regulations. This includes, but is not limited to, the
28 right to personally appear at any administrative hearing held in this matter, to be represented by an

1 attorney at Respondents' own expense, to confront and cross-examine all witnesses testifying at the
2 hearing, to subpoena witnesses to testify at the hearing, to have an impartial administrative law judge
3 preside over the hearing as a hearing officer, and to have the matter judicially reviewed.

4 It is further stipulated and agreed that Respondents Stephen E. Benson, Committee to Elect Steve
5 Benson Judge, and Eugene C. Hancock violated the Political Reform Act by failing to timely deposit a
6 loan made to the candidate into the campaign bank account, in violation of section 85201, subdivision
7 (c) of the Government Code (one count); and by failing to disclose the receipt of a loan, in violation of
8 sections 84211, subdivision (f), and 84216, subdivision (c) of the Government Code (one count); and
9 failed to disclose the true source of a loan, in violation of sections 84211, subdivision (f), and 84216,
10 subdivision (e) of the Government Code (two counts); as described in Exhibit 1. Exhibit 1 is attached
11 hereto and incorporated by reference as though fully set forth herein. Exhibit 1 is a true and accurate
12 summary of the facts in this matter.

13 Respondents agree to the issuance of the decision and order, which is attached hereto.
14 Respondents also agree to the Commission imposing upon them an administrative penalty in the amount
15 of Seven Thousand Dollars (\$7,000). A cashier's check from Respondents in said amount, made
16 payable to the "General Fund of the State of California," is submitted with this stipulation as full
17 payment of the administrative penalty, and shall be held by the State of California until the Commission
18 issues its decision and order regarding this matter. The parties agree that in the event the Commission
19 refuses to accept this stipulation, it shall become null and void, and within fifteen (15) business days
20 after the Commission meeting at which the stipulation is rejected, all payments tendered by Respondents
21 in connection with this stipulation shall be reimbursed to Respondents. Respondents further stipulate
22 and agree that in the event the Commission rejects the stipulation, and a full evidentiary hearing before
23 the Commission becomes necessary, neither any member of the Commission, nor the Executive
24 Director, shall be disqualified because of prior consideration of this stipulation.

25
26 Dated: _____

Mark Krausse
Executive Director
Fair Political Practices Commission

1 Dated: _____

2 _____
Stephen E. Benson, Respondent

3
4 Dated: _____

5 _____
Committee to Elect Steve Benson Judge, Respondent

6
7 Dated: _____

8 _____
Eugene C. Hancock, Respondent

9
10 **DECISION AND ORDER**

11 The foregoing stipulation of the parties “In the Matter of Stephen E. Benson, Committee to Elect
12 Steve Benson Judge, and Eugene C. Hancock, FPPC No. 02/503,” including all attached exhibits, is
13 hereby accepted as the final decision and order of the Fair Political Practices Commission, effective
14 upon execution below by the Chairman.

15
16 IT IS SO ORDERED.

17
18 Dated: _____

19 _____
Liane M. Randolph, Chairman
Fair Political Practices Commission